

IN THE SPECIFICATION

1. Beginning at page 4, line 1 and continuing through page 5, line 29 ("Summary of the Invention"), please amend the text as follows:

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-- In a first aspect, the present invention provides an improved elevator information and control system which enables an user to rapidly locate a desired firm or individual. In a first embodiment, the system includes an interactive building directory having a speech recognition system and other input device such as a touch pad. The user utilizes the input device to activate the system, and then speaks the name of the firm or individual whose location is desired. A speech generation algorithm and processor generates speech (and/or a graphical representation via a minimum profile flat panel display) based on data retrieved from a database per the user's request. The user is also prompted to determine if they desire to select the floor of the firm or individual that they were trying to locate. The user then may use the speech recognition system, or alternatively the aforementioned input device, to respond. The database also maintains data on other nearby buildings in case the user is at the wrong location.

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In a second aspect of the invention, the information and control system further includes a network interface that is coupled to the aforementioned input and display devices. In one embodiment, the network (e.g., Internet) interface is configured to provide rapid access to a variety of web sites or URLs of interest, such as those providing local weather, directions from the elevator to local points of interest, stock market quotations, breaking news headlines, etc. Preset functions are provided which enable the user to access, download, and display the desired information with a single actuation of the input device. A plurality of different input/display devices are disposed within the smart elevator to allow multiple occupants to obtain information simultaneously.

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In a third aspect of the invention, the smart elevator includes one or more data terminals which are compatible with personal electronic devices (PEDs) so as to allow an occupant of the elevator to download a predetermined or adaptively determined "package" of data for later retrieval or use. Such data may include news, weather, financial data, listings of building tenants, firm resumes, parking rates, hours of operation, and the like. In one embodiment, the download of data is initiated automatically upon the insertion of the PED into the data terminal, thereby reducing the time necessary to download to a minimum.

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In a fourth aspect of the invention, the information and control system includes a sensor array and logic which detects the loading of the elevator car and selectively bypasses floors when the car's capacity is met, unless the floor is selected by one of the occupants of the car. In one embodiment, the flooring of the elevator car is equipped with piezoelectric sensors that generate signals based on the pressure applied to them. This pressure is correlated to the weight and location of the occupants in the car, and with the number of different floors selected, to derive an estimate of the occupancy. When the capacity of the elevator is reached as

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determined by this estimate, any subsequent call signals received by the system are routed to another available car.

In a fifth aspect of the invention, the aforementioned display device within the car may be configured to provide a video display of the area immediately surrounding access to the elevator on certain floors, such as parking garages. The user can over ride the car stopping at that floor if desired, contact security, and/or initiate temporary additional lighting in the area via a series of fixed or "soft" function keys. A motion sensor is also optionally used to provide the elevator user with information regarding the presence of moving objects in areas adjacent to but out of view of the video units. When accessing a parking garage or structure, the user may also input the location of their car using additional function keys; lighting and security monitoring of the path between the elevator and the car is then initiated to enhance user safety.

In a sixth aspect of the invention, an RFID tag and reader system is employed to uniquely identify occupants and provide them access to certain floors. RFID monitors with limited ranges are placed in certain locations near the elevator access points. These monitors interrogate the RFID tags and initiate a call signal for specific floor during after hours operation. The user is then required to authenticate via a password input via the input device located inside elevator. The elevator system can optionally notify security (and/or the destination floor) of the individual's destination and identity, and maintain a record of access. The user may also optionally perform other functions such as lighting and environmental control from the elevator. The user's RFID tag may also be programmed to interface with the aforementioned PED data download device such that the tag pre configures the system for download.

In an seventh aspect of the invention, the aforementioned display devices and information and control system are programmed to provide adaptive advertising or information display. In one embodiment, the speech recognition system previously described is used to select and display information based on one or more parameters including statistical or anecdotal sampling of the speech patterns of the occupants. Alternatively, information entered via the aforementioned input device (and network interface) may be used as a determinant in the adaptive advertising system.

In a first aspect of the invention, a method of selectively providing information to the passengers of an elevator car is disclosed. In one embodiment, the method comprises: passively analyzing at least one selection made via an input device by at least one of the passengers; retrieving stored information based on the at least one selection, the stored information being contextually related to the at least one selection; and displaying at least a portion of the stored information on at least one display device viewable by the at least one passenger.

In another embodiment, the method comprises: passively sampling the speech of at least one of the passengers; retrieving stored information based on the sampled speech, the stored information being contextually related to at least portions of the sampled speech; and displaying at least a portion of the stored information on at least one display device viewable by the at least one passenger.

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In another embodiment, the method comprises: passively analyzing selections made via an input device by at least one of the passengers; retrieving stored information based on the selections, the stored information being contextually related thereto; and providing at least a portion of the stored information to the at least one passenger via an output device disposed within the elevator car.

In a second aspect of the invention, an electronic information system for use in an elevator is disclosed. In one embodiment, the system comprises: at least one input device adapted to generate data relating to at least one environment external to the elevator; a processor, operatively connected to the at least one input device, the processor receiving the data from the at least one input device; at least one output device, operatively connected to the processor, for providing the selected portions of the data to at least one passenger of the elevator while the at least passenger occupies the elevator; and a controller responsive to input from the at least one passenger, the controller adapted to control the operation of at least one aspect of the elevator, and further adapted to control the function of at least one device external to the elevator. --